



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 107th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 147

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2001

No. 54

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable GEORGE ALLEN, a Senator from the State of Virginia.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Rev. Monte Frohm, of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Reston, VA, offered the following prayer:

Merciful Father, You are the source of all authority and power. You hold in Your hand all the nations of the world, including our own beloved United States of America. You have ordained the powers that be for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of them that act rightly.

We humbly beg You to so guide the men and women of this Senate, that they might in due modesty and with undying hope pursue Your gracious will and purpose. Enlighten them with Your vision for our Nation, equip them with Your strength, instill in them a spirit of integrity that mirrors Your truth, and grant them patience in well doing that reflects Your long-suffering mercy.

May their labors yield a nation that is marked by justice and peace, righteousness and unity, gratitude and hope. As each of us is created in Your image, so let our common life reflect Your glory.

O Lord, our troubles are many, but Your strength is great. Our fears confound us, but Your promise gives hope. Our sins are many, but Your mercy is deep. Leave us not to our own devices, but work Your gracious purpose through us, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable GEORGE ALLEN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Oklahoma, the acting majority leader, Mr. NICKLES, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, today we will be in a period of morning business until 11 a.m. Following morning business, it is hoped that the Senate can begin consideration of S. 149, the Export Administration Act. Senators interested in this legislation are encouraged to be present on the floor at 11 a.m.

In addition, negotiations are continuing on the education bill, and consideration of that bill is expected in the not too distant future. As announced, there will be no session of the Senate on Friday.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I want to mention that I am glad we are going to attempt to get to the Export Administration Act. I think that is what it is called. It is a very important measure. Senator GRAHAM and I worked with Senator ENZI and other Senators trying to get that considered last year and we were unable to do that. I was happy to see in today's press—and I only read the Washington Post, and that may not be the best paper to read, but I read it—the indication that President Bush expressed in statements to the press several times yesterday that he was going to have to work with us, compromise on taxes and education.

I say this because I don't think it shows a sign of weakness of the President. I think it shows a maturity he knows—of course, because he worked with the Texas Legislature for 6 years as Governor—that legislation is the art

of compromise, and he is going to have to compromise some of his positions. We will also have to compromise some of ours. This is the beginning of, I hope, some productivity in the Congress.

I think we did our job yesterday by passing by a 99-0 vote the brownfields bill from the Environment and Public Works Committee. I hope this is the beginning of a very productive session of Congress.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I appreciate my colleague's comments. I have always enjoyed working with Senator REID. I think this can be a very productive month. This can be a month that we finish the budget and the tax bill, and we can finish the education bill. It is a month in which we can accomplish a lot for the American people that will make a difference in their lives and in their paychecks.

A lot of times people wonder what do we do and are there real results and are there real differences in what we do. Considering the education bill and tax measures pending, we can make a lot of difference, whether you are talking about the marriage penalty or a \$500 tax credit per child, cutting taxes across the board, reforming education, giving more power to parents and teachers. We can do all that this month. By Memorial Day, we can have great, significant accomplishments by working together. I look forward to working with my friend and colleague from Nevada.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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